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Boone

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(54) **PORTABLE TABLE APPARATUS**

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A47B 3/06	(2006.01)
A47B 13/00	(2006.01)
A47B 13/08	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC ***A47B 3/06*** (2013.01); ***A47B 13/003*** (2013.01); ***A47B 13/08*** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC F16B 12/22; F16B 12/34; F16B 12/44; A47B 13/04; A47B 3/06; A47B 2013/006; A47B 13/003
USPC 248/165, 150; 108/153.1, 154, 155, 108/156, 157.1, 157.16, 157.18, 159, 158, 108/158.11, 158.12, 67
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A table apparatus and method of constructing the same including a table top having a plurality of slots, a plurality of legs, each of the legs inserted into a corresponding slot, and a support brace having a first longitudinal slot and a second longitudinal slot, the first longitudinal slot having a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot. A first leg of the plurality of legs is positioned in the first longitudinal slot. A second leg in the plurality of legs is positioned in the second longitudinal slot. The first leg can have a first bolt, the first bolt positioned to extend through a first slot of the plurality of slots and the first longitudinal slot. The second leg can have a second bolt, the second bolt configured to extend through a second slot of the plurality of slots and the second longitudinal slot.

18 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

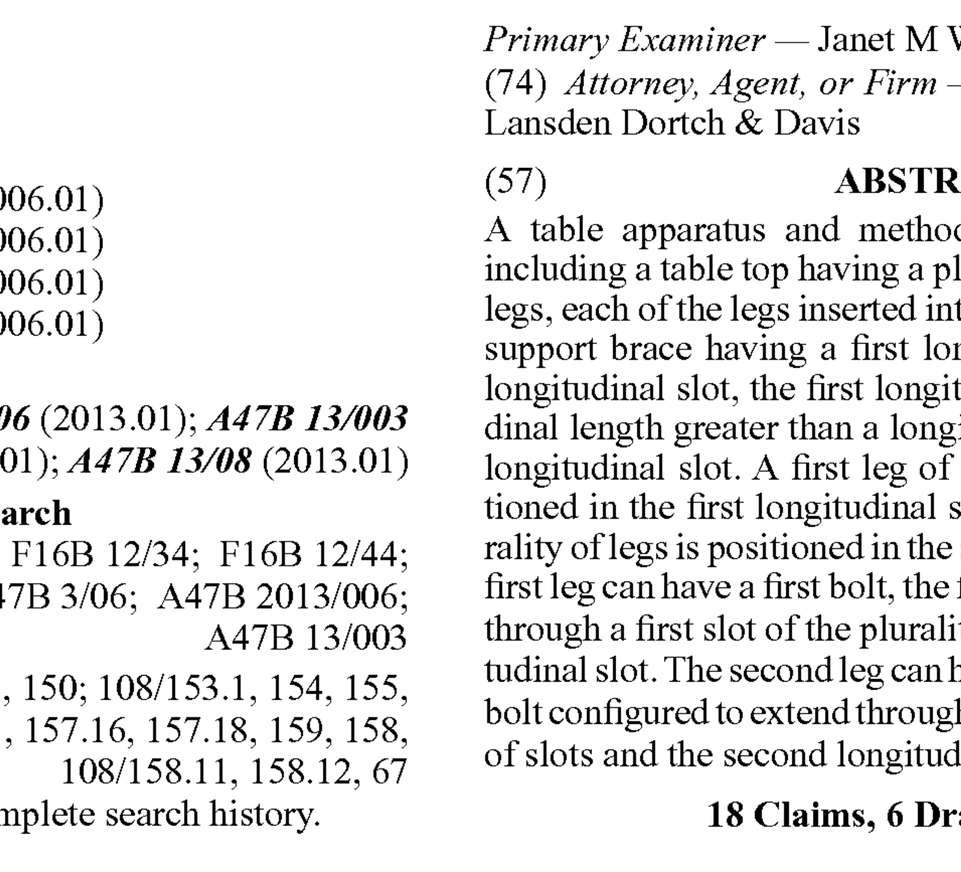

FIG. 1

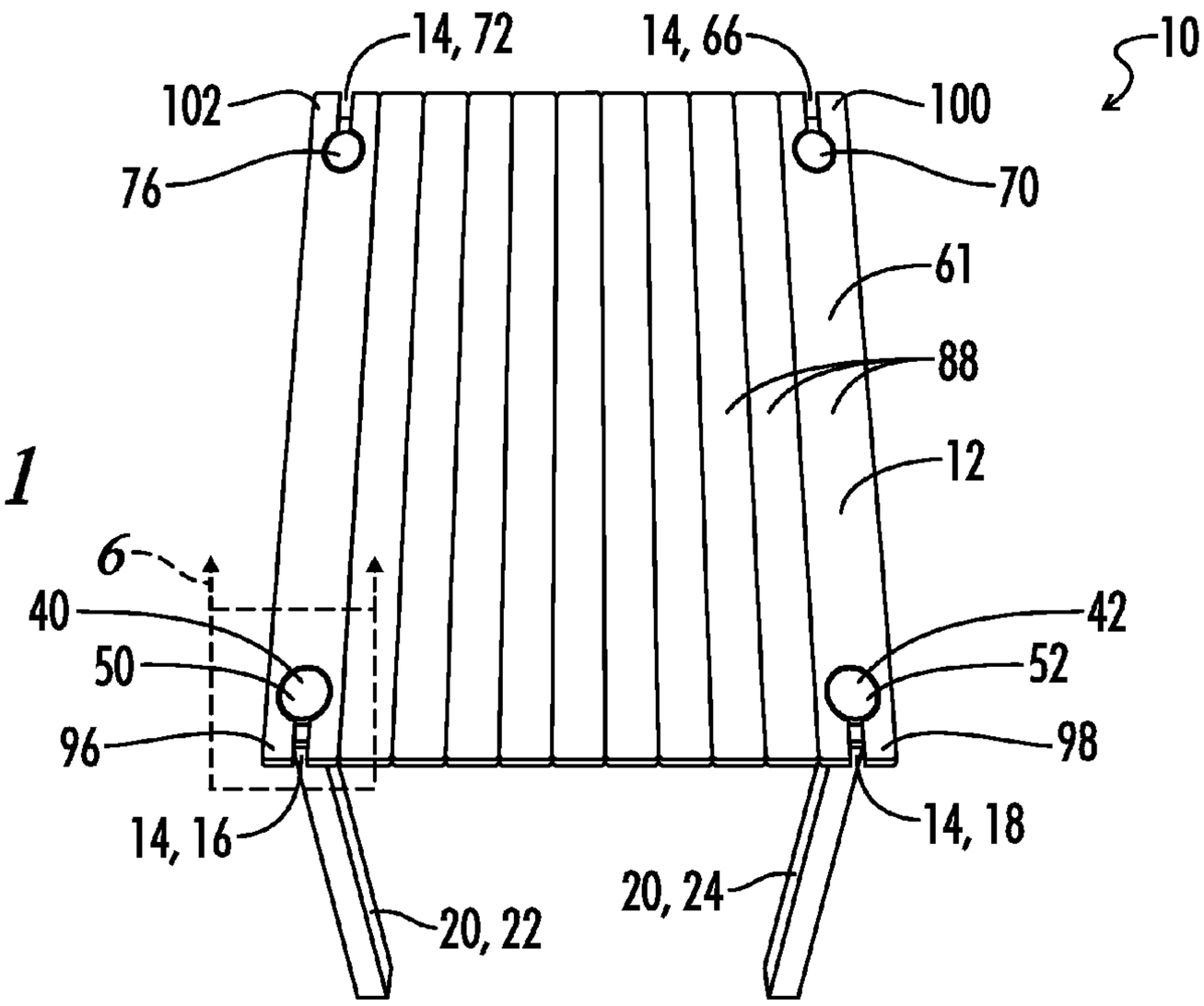
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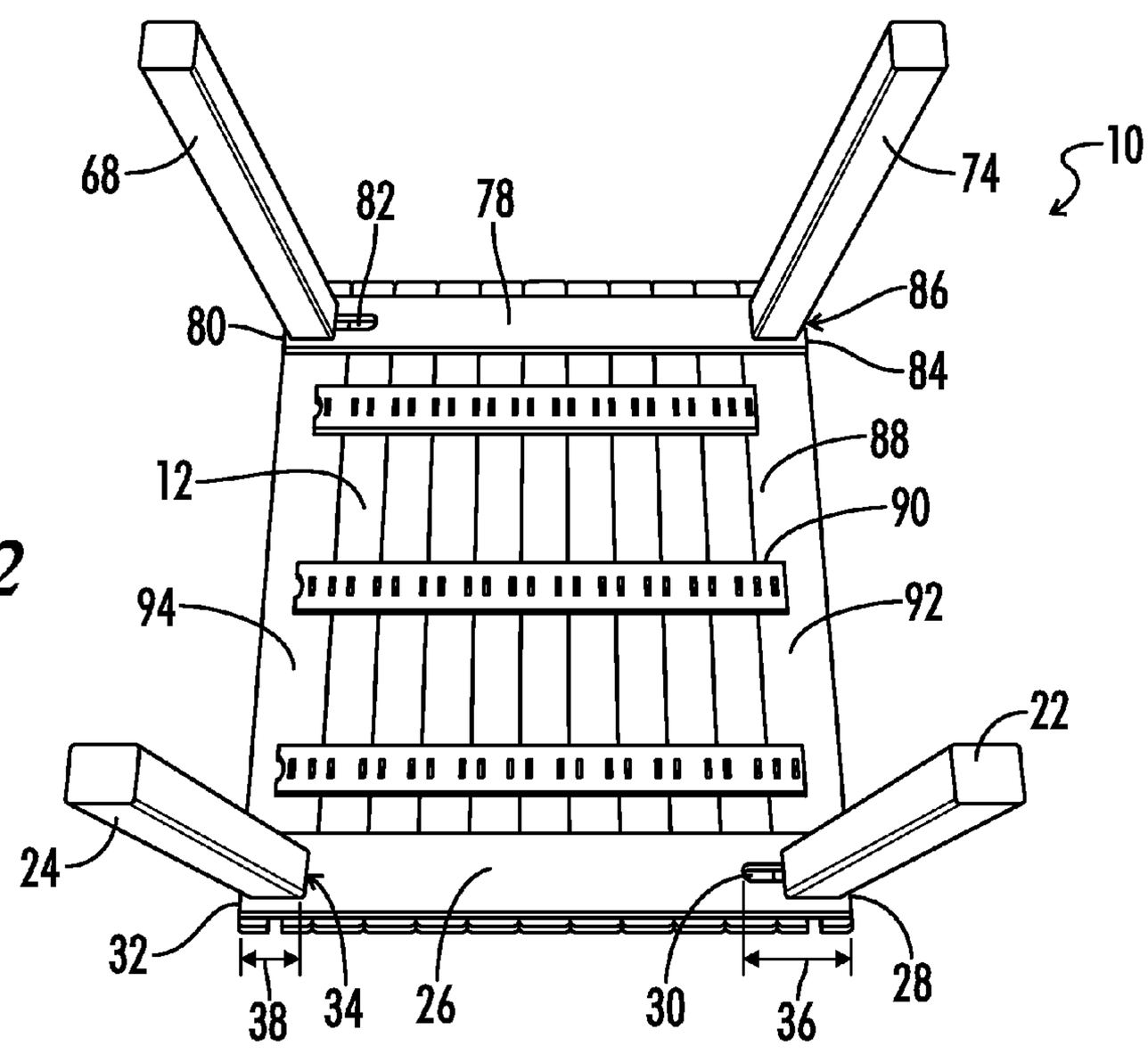
FIG. 2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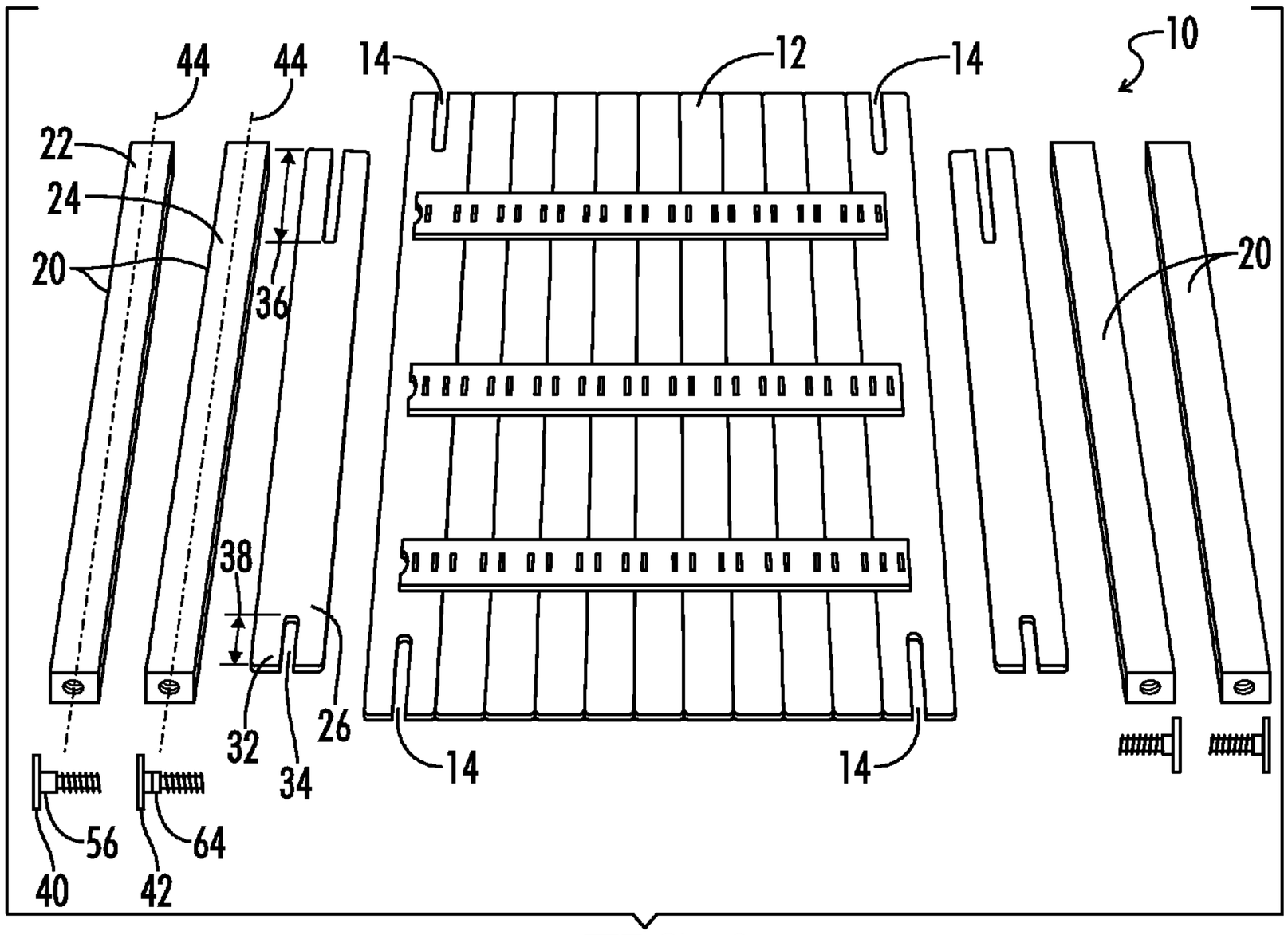
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FIG. 3

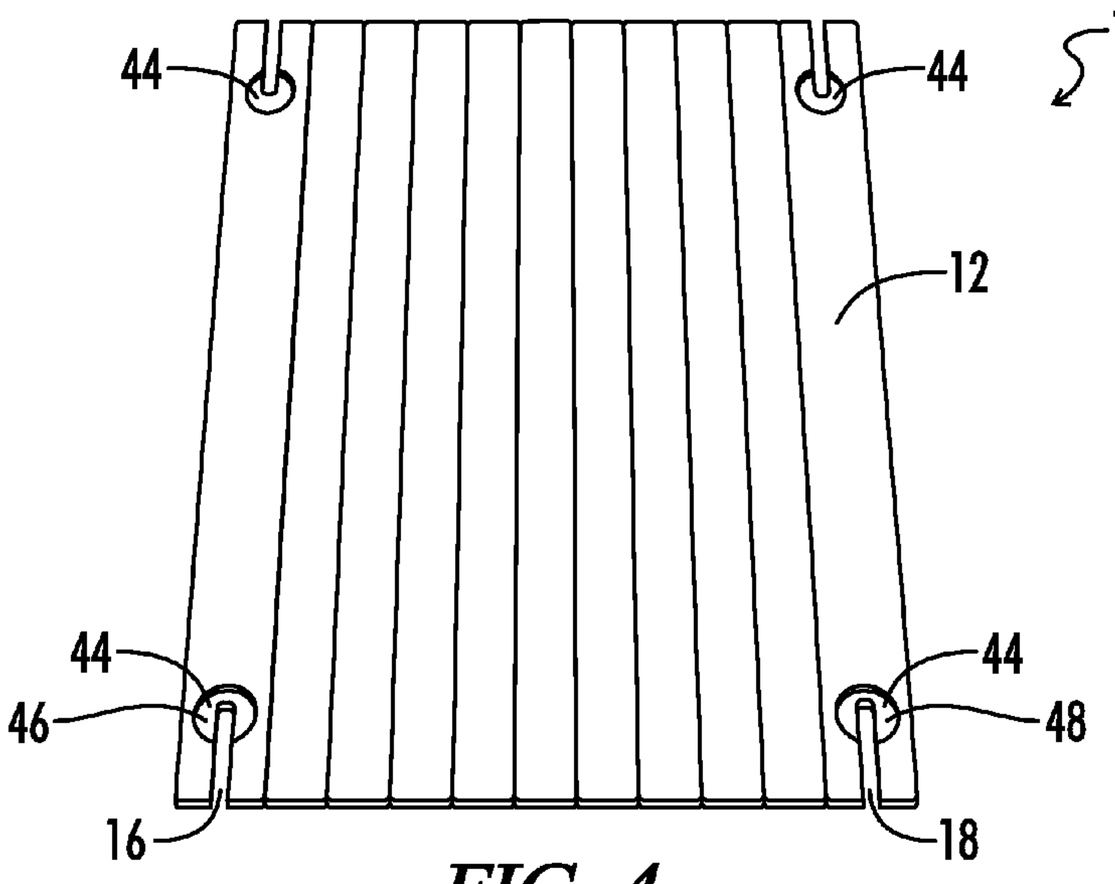
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FIG. 4

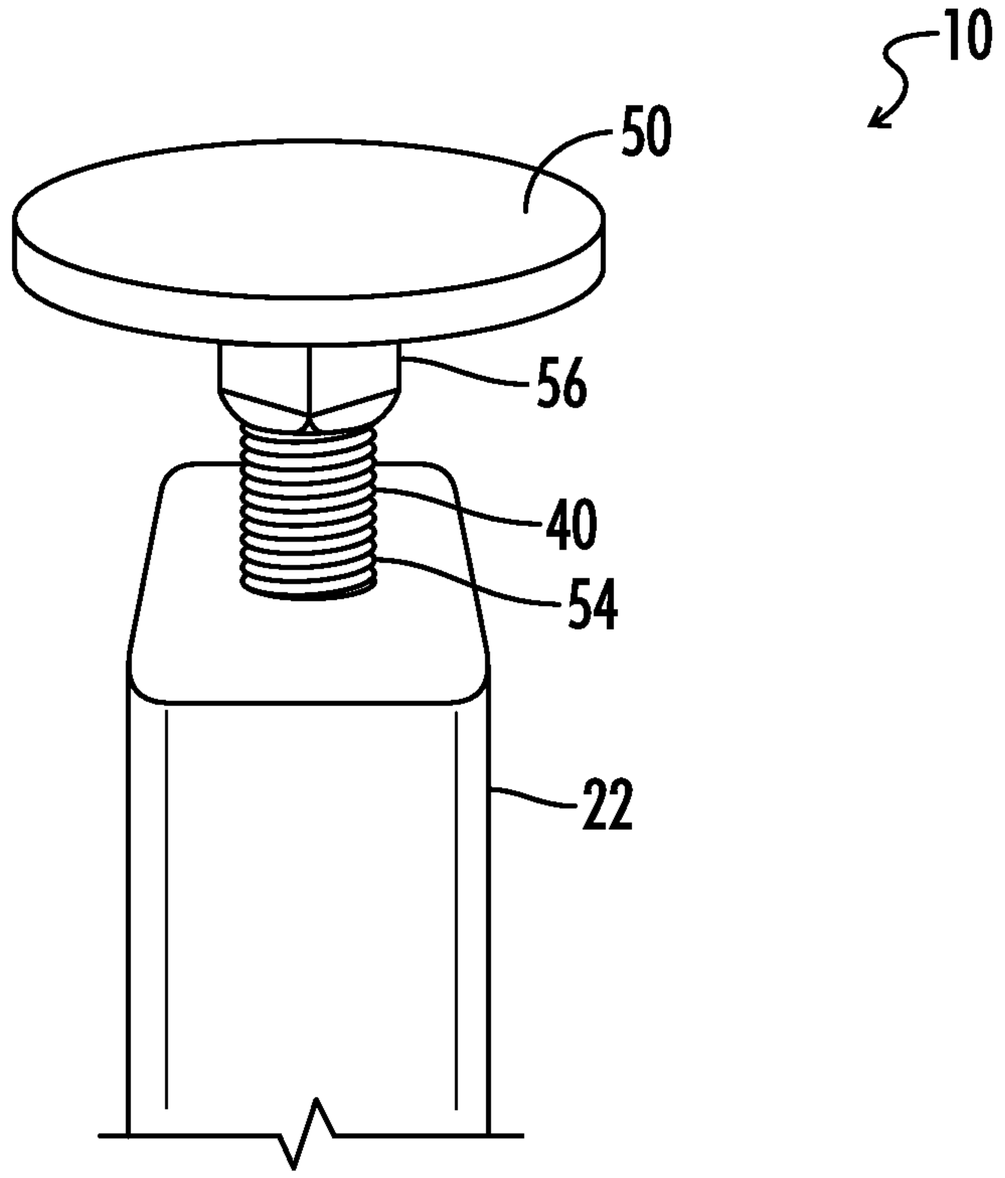


FIG. 5

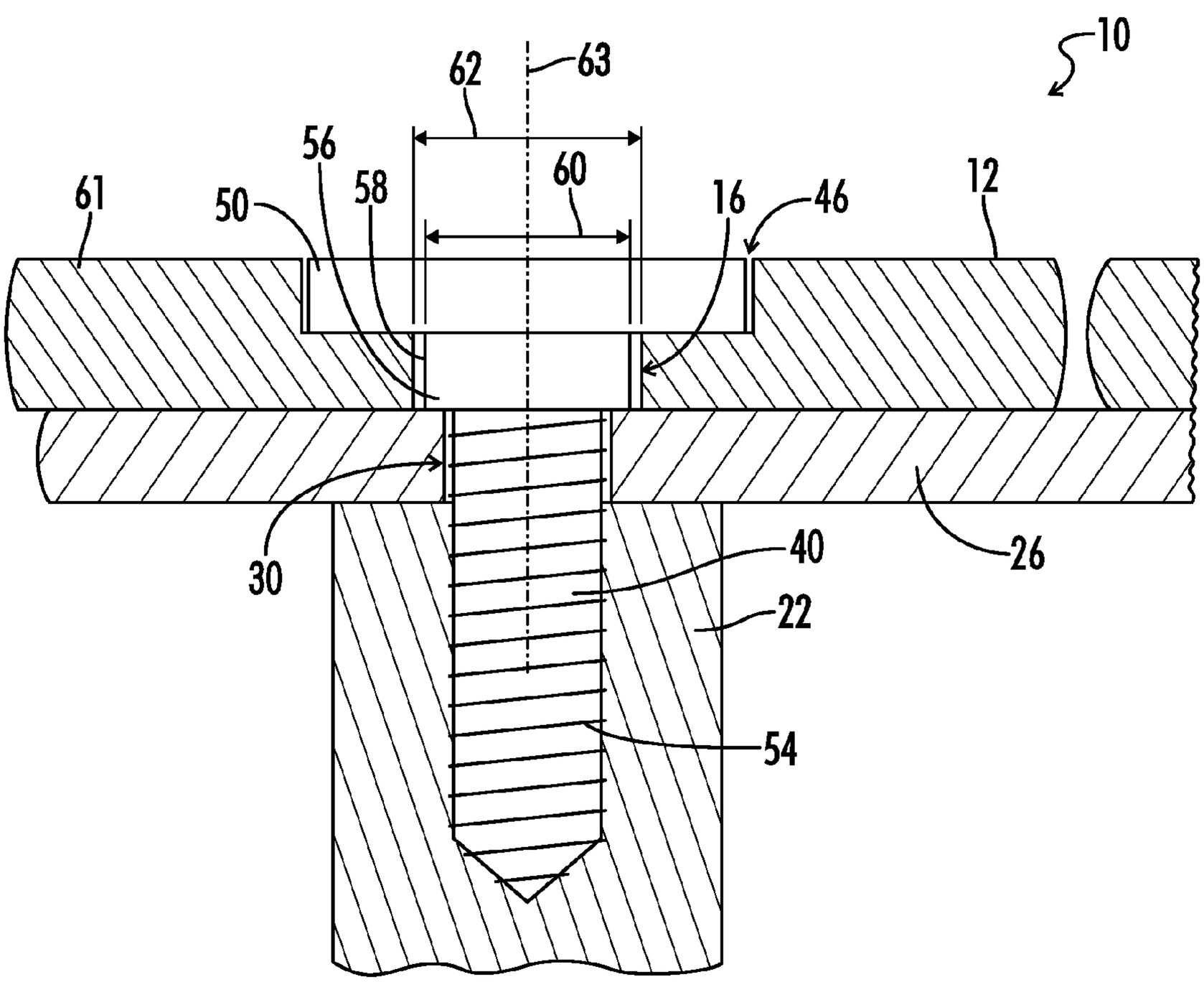


FIG. 6

FIG. 7

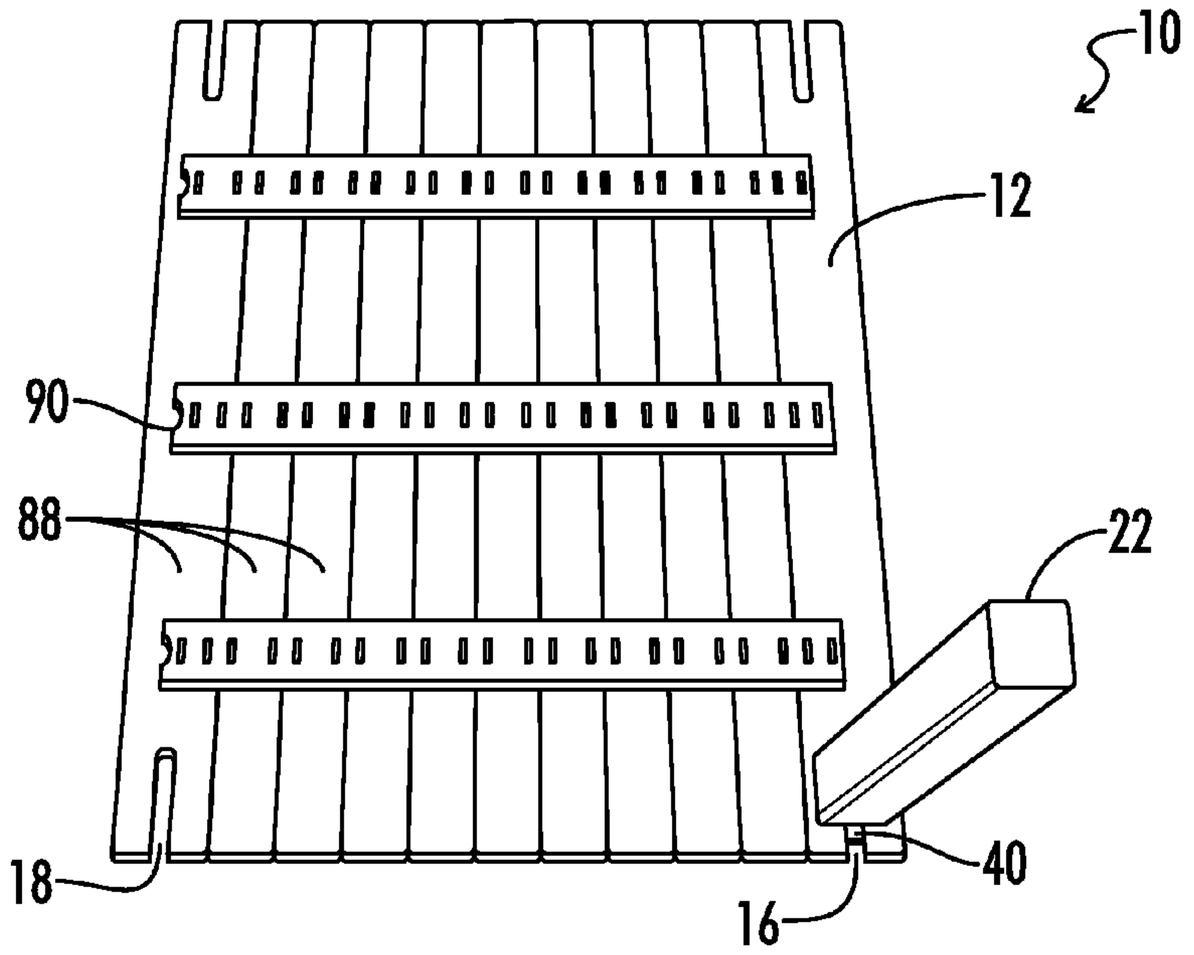
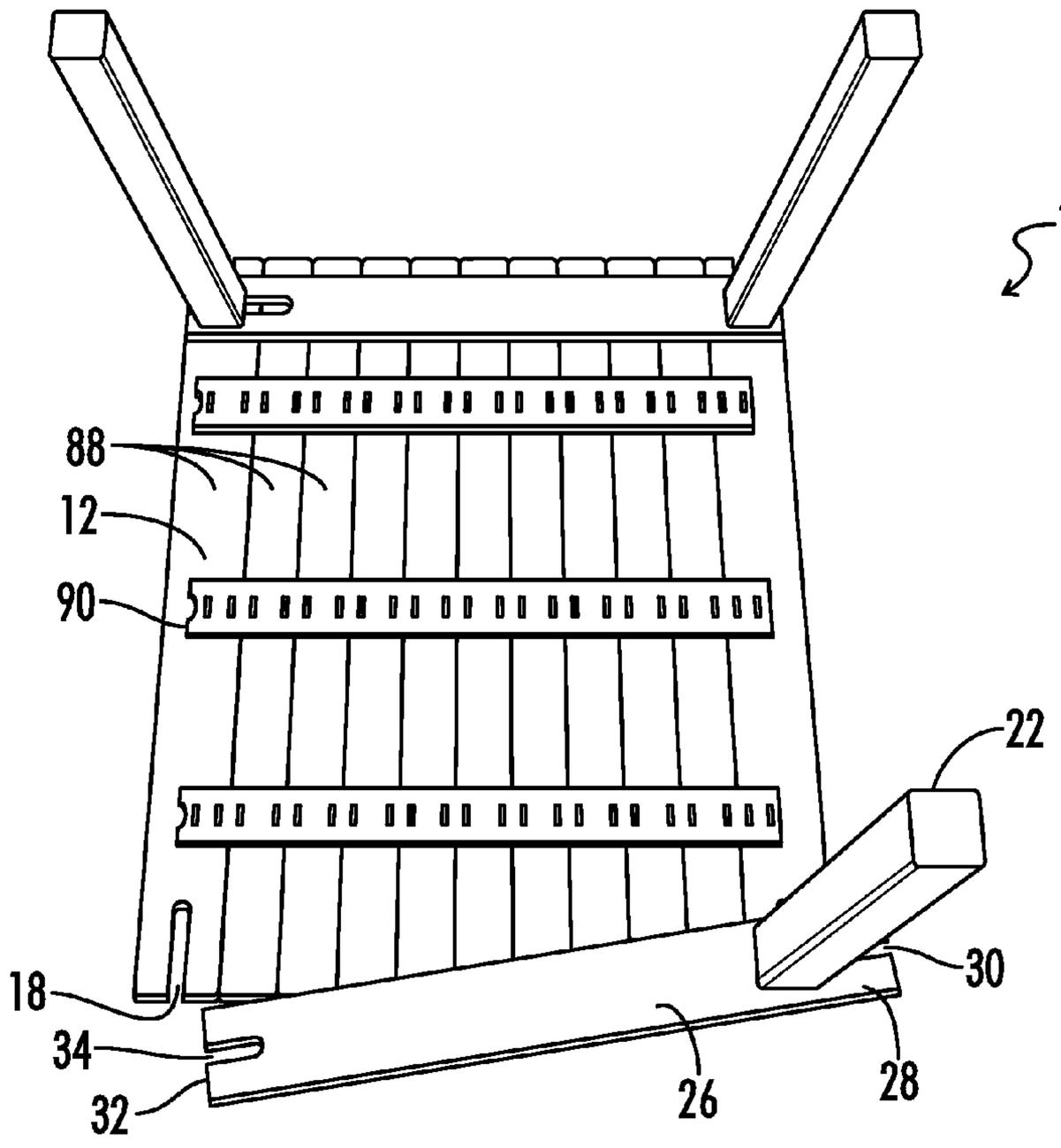


FIG. 8



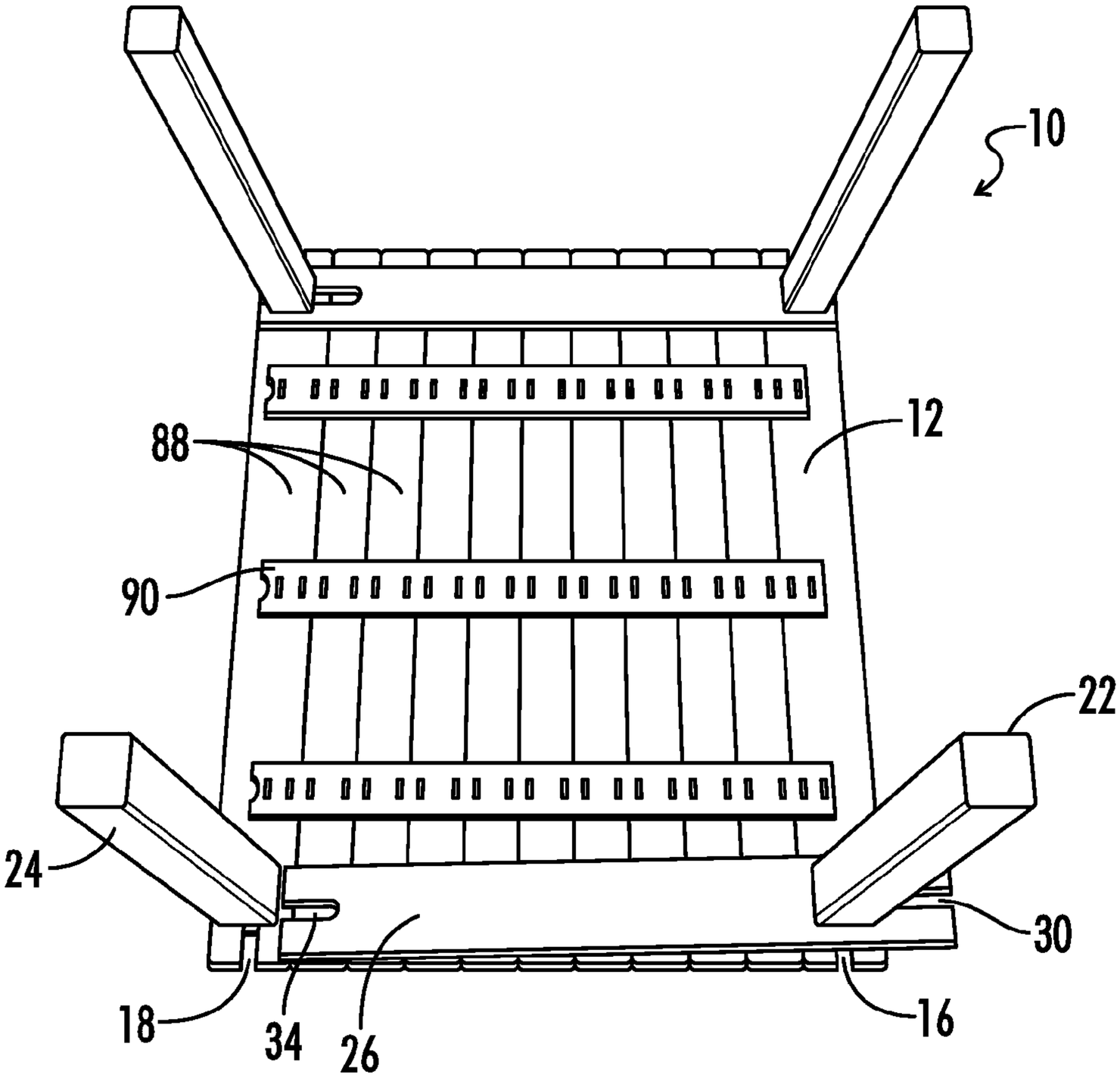


FIG. 9

PORTABLE TABLE APPARATUS

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not Applicable

REFERENCE TO SEQUENCE LISTING OR COMPUTER PROGRAM LISTING APPENDIX

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a portable table apparatus.

More particularly, the present invention relates to a table apparatus that can be disassembled and reassembled to provide a convenient table that can be carried with the user to various locations. Conventional solutions include a table top with a plurality of legs that can be screwed and unscrewed from the table top. To transport the table, the legs are unscrewed from the table top, and the legs and table top are stored in a bag or other carrying device to be transported to a different location, or to be stored when the table is not in use. However, such solutions include legs with long bolts or screws extending from the legs. The bolts or screws must be fully screwed into the table top, which can take a considerable amount of time and effort, which can be undesirable.

Additionally, some conventional solutions include support braces that reinforce the legs of the table apparatus. However, these support braces include lateral or transverse slats which receive the legs of the table. A lateral slat in the support brace can make the support brace more likely to fatigue or break along the slat, which can be undesirable as the support braces may need to be replaced often.

What is needed then are improvements in portable tables.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Aspects of the present invention provide a portable table apparatus that can be disassembled and reassembled such that a user can conveniently transport the table apparatus to various locations.

In one aspect, the table apparatus includes a table top having a plurality of slots. The table apparatus includes a plurality of legs, each of the plurality of legs being inserted into a corresponding slot in the table top. The table apparatus includes a support brace having a first end including a first longitudinal slot and a second end including a second longitudinal slot. The first longitudinal slot has a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot. A first leg of the plurality of legs can be positioned in the first longitudinal slot, and a second leg of the plurality of legs can be positioned in the second longitudinal slot.

In some embodiments, the first leg includes a first bolt, the first bolt configured to extend through a first slot in the plurality of slots in the table top, the first bolt additionally configured to be received by the first longitudinal slot of the support brace. The second leg can include a second bolt, the second bolt configured to extend through a second slot of the plurality of slots in the table top, the second bolt additionally configured to be received by the second longitudinal slot of the support brace.

In some embodiments, the table top includes a plurality of slats oriented substantially perpendicular to each other, the plurality of slats being connected to one another by at least one strap attached to one side of the plurality of slats. The table top can be operable to roll up when detached from the first and second legs and the support brace. As such, the table apparatus can be stored in a relatively small amount of space.

Another aspect of the present invention is a method for constructing a table apparatus including a table top with a plurality of slots, a plurality of legs, and a support brace having a first end with a first longitudinal slot and a second end with a second longitudinal slot, the first longitudinal slot having a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot. The method includes the steps of inserting a first leg of the plurality of legs into a first slot of the plurality of slots in the table top, inserting the first leg into the first longitudinal slot of the support brace, inserting a second leg of the plurality of legs into a second slot of the plurality of slots in the table top, and inserted the second leg into the second longitudinal slot of the support brace, such that the support brace extends across a plurality of slats of the table top.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a top perspective view of an embodiment of a table apparatus of the present invention.

FIG. **2** is a bottom perspective view of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **3** is a dissembled view of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **4** is a top perspective view of the table top of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **5** is a detailed view of a bolt extending from a leg of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **6** is a cross sectional view of the joining of the table top, the support brace, and a leg of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **7** is a bottom perspective view of a first leg being inserted into a first slot in the table top of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **8** is a bottom perspective view of a support brace sliding into a first leg of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **9** is a bottom perspective view of a second leg being inserted into a second slot in the table top of the table apparatus of FIG. **1**.

Reference will now be made in detail to optional embodiments of the invention, examples of which are illustrated in accompanying drawings. Whenever possible, the same reference numbers are used in the drawing and in the description referring to the same or like parts.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

While the making and using of various embodiments of the present invention are discussed in detail below, it should be

appreciated that the present invention provides many applicable inventive concepts that can be embodied in a wide variety of specific contexts. The specific embodiments discussed herein are merely illustrative of specific ways to make and use the invention and do not delimit the scope of the invention.

To facilitate the understanding of the embodiments described herein, a number of terms are defined below. The terms defined herein have meanings as commonly understood by a person of ordinary skill in the areas relevant to the present invention. Terms such as "a," "an," and "the" are not intended to refer to only a singular entity, but rather include the general class of which a specific example may be used for illustration. The terminology herein is used to describe specific embodiments of the invention, but their usage does not delimit the invention, except as set forth in the claims.

As described herein, an upright position is considered to be the position of apparatus components while in proper operation or in a natural resting position as described herein. Vertical, horizontal, above, below, side, top, bottom and other orientation terms are described with respect to this upright position during operation unless otherwise specified. The term "when" is used to specify orientation for relative positions of components, not as a temporal limitation of the claims or apparatus described and claimed herein unless otherwise specified. The terms "above", "below", "over", and "under" mean "having an elevation or vertical height greater or lesser than" and are not intended to imply that one object or component is directly over or under another object or component.

The phrase "in one embodiment," as used herein does not necessarily refer to the same embodiment, although it may. Conditional language used herein, such as, among others, "can," "might," "may," "e.g.," and the like, unless specifically stated otherwise, or otherwise understood within the context as used, is generally intended to convey that certain embodiments include, while other embodiments do not include, certain features, elements and/or states. Thus, such conditional language is not generally intended to imply that features, elements and/or states are in any way required for one or more embodiments or that one or more embodiments necessarily include logic for deciding, with or without author input or prompting, whether these features, elements and/or states are included or are to be performed in any particular embodiment.

This written description uses examples to disclose the invention and also to enable any person skilled in the art to practice the invention, including making and using any devices or systems and performing any incorporated methods. The patentable scope of the invention is defined by the claims, and may include other examples that occur to those skilled in the art. Such other examples are intended to be within the scope of the claims if they have structural elements that do not differ from the literal language of the claims, or if they include equivalent structural elements with insubstantial differences from the literal languages of the claims.

It will be understood that the particular embodiments described herein are shown by way of illustration and not as limitations of the invention. The principal features of this invention may be employed in various embodiments without departing from the scope of the invention. Those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize numerous equivalents to the specific procedures described herein. Such equivalents are considered to be within the scope of this invention and are covered by the claims.

All of the compositions and/or methods disclosed and claimed herein may be made and/or executed without undue experimentation in light of the present disclosure. While the compositions and methods of this invention have been described in terms of the embodiments included herein, it will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that variations may be applied to the compositions and/or methods and in the steps or in the sequence of steps of the method described herein without departing from the concept, spirit, and scope of the invention. All such similar substitutes and modifications apparent to those skilled in the art are deemed to be within the spirit, scope, and concept of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

A perspective view of a first embodiment of the present invention is shown in FIG. **1**. A table apparatus **10** includes a table top **12**. The table top **12** can includes a plurality of slots **14**. The plurality of slots **14** includes a first slot **16** and a second slot **18**. The table apparatus **10** can also include a plurality of legs **20**, each of the plurality of legs inserted into a corresponding slot **14** in the table top **12**. The plurality of legs can include a first leg **22** and a second leg **24**. The first leg **22** can be inserted in the first slot **16**, and the second leg **24** can be inserted in the second slot **18**.

As can be seen from FIG. **2**, the table apparatus **10** can include a support brace **26**. The support brace **26** can have a first end **28** having a first longitudinal slot **30**, and a second end **32** having a second longitudinal slot **34**. The first longitudinal slot **30** can have a longitudinal length **36** greater than a longitudinal length **38** of the second longitudinal slot **34**. The first leg **22** can be positioned in the first longitudinal slot **30**, and the second leg **24** can be positioned in the second longitudinal slot **34**. The support brace **26** can help provide strength and rigidity to the table apparatus **10** and can also help structurally reinforce the connection between the first and second legs **22** and **24** and the table top **12**.

Some conventional solutions include support braces that include lateral slats in the support braces. However, such lateral slats can make the support braces more prone to fatigue and breaking, which can be undesirable. The longitudinal slots **30** and **34** in the support brace **26** can help make the support brace **26** more resistant to fatigue and breaking.

A disassembled view of the table apparatus of FIG. **1** can be seen in FIG. **3**. In some embodiments, the first leg **22** can include a first bolt **40**, and the second leg **24** can include a second bolt **42**. In some embodiments, the first and second legs **22** and **24** can each include a longitudinal axis **44**, the first and second legs **22** and **24** extending along their respective longitudinal axes. The first bolt **40** can extend longitudinally from or along a longitudinal axis of the first leg **22**, and the second bolt **42** can extend longitudinally from or along a longitudinal axis of the second leg **24**. As can be seen in FIG. **1**, in some embodiments the first bolt **40** can configured to extend through the first slot **16** such that the first bolt **40** is positioned in the first slot **16**. Similarly, the second bolt **42** can be configured to extend through the second slot **18** such that the second bolt **42** is positioned in the second slot **18**. The first slot **16** has a width that is bigger than at least a portion of the first bolt **40**, and the second slot **18** has a width that is bigger than at least a portion of the second bolt **42**.

As can be seen from FIG. **2**, the first longitudinal slot **30** of the support brace **26** can be configured to receive the first bolt **40** of the first leg **22** such that the first bolt **40** is positioned in the first longitudinal slot **30**. Similarly, the second longitudinal slot **34** of the support brace **26** can be configured to receive the second bolt **42** such that the second bolt **42** is positioned in the second longitudinal slot **34**. The first longitudinal slot **30** has a width that is bigger than at least a portion of the first bolt **40**, and the second longitudinal slot **34** has a width that is bigger than at least a portion of the second bolt **42**. As such,

the first and second bolts **40** and **42** can each be positioned within their corresponding slots in the table top **12** as well as their corresponding longitudinal slots in the support brace **26**, effectively joining the table top **12** and the support brace **26** to each of the first and second legs **22** and **24**. In some embodiments, the support brace **26** can be configured to be positioned between the table top **12** and the first leg **20** and the table top **12** and the second leg **24**. In such a configuration, the support brace **26** is not visible when the table apparatus **10** is viewed from above.

As can be seen in FIG. **4**, in some embodiments, the table top **12** can include a plurality of recesses **44**. The plurality of recesses **44** can include a first recess **46** and a second recess **48**, the first slot **16** coincident extending into or coincident with the first recess **46**, and the second slot **18** extending into or coincident with the second recess **48**. As can be seen from FIG. **1**, the first bolt **40** can include a first bolt head **50**, and the second bolt **42** can include a second bolt head **52**. The first recess **46** can be configured to receive the first bolt head **50**, and the second recess **48** can be configured to receive the second bolt head **52**. The first bolt **40** can be positioned in the first slot **16** such that the first bolt head **50** is positioned in the first recess **46**. The second bolt **42** can be positioned in the second slot **18** such that the second bolt head **52** is positioned in the second recess **48**. Having the bolt heads **50** and **52** positioned within their respective recesses **46** and **48** can help prevent the first and second bolts **40** and **42** from sliding within the first and second slots **16** and **18** respectively, which can help provide increased rigidity and structure to the table apparatus **10**.

In some embodiments, the bolts **40** and **42** in the legs **22** and **24** can be configured to extend a predetermined distance from the legs **22** and **24** such that when the bolts **40** and **42** are positioned in the corresponding slots **16** and **18** in the table top **12** and the longitudinal slots **30** and **34** in the support brace **26**, an interference fit can be formed between the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first and second legs **22** and **24**. The interference fit can produce a tight joining of the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first and second legs **22** and **24**.

In other embodiments, the first and second bolts **40** and **42** can be threaded into the first and second legs **22** and **24** respectively. A first leg **22** with a threaded first bolt **40** can be seen in FIG. **5**. The threaded first bolt **40** can have threads **54** which can be predrilled into the first leg **22**. The first bolt **40** can then be adjustable within the first leg **22** such that the first bolt **42** can selectively clamp the first leg **22**, the support brace **26**, and the table top **12** together. When the first bolt **42** is positioned in the first slot **16** and the first longitudinal slot **30**, the first bolt **40** can then be tightened to insert the first bolt **40** further into the first leg **22**, thereby clamping the first leg **22**, the table top **12**, and the support brace **26** together. The first bolt **40** can then be loosened in order to remove the first bolt **40** from the first slot **16** and the first longitudinal slot **30** when the table apparatus **10** is being taken apart. Similarly, the second bolt **42** can also be threaded into the second leg **24** such that the second bolt **42** can be adjustable within the second leg **24** such that the second bolt **42** can selectively clamp the second leg **24**, the table top **12**, and the support brace **26** together.

Such a configuration with a threaded bolt predrilled into each leg of the table apparatus can help reduce the time required for assembling the table apparatus **10**. In conventional tables, a bolt or screw is drilled into each leg. A corresponding threaded hole is predrilled into the table top. The bolt or screw in the leg must then be screwed into the corresponding hole in the table. In such an embodiment, a significant portion of the bolt or screw must be screwed into the table top, which can take substantial time and effort. In the embodiment shown in FIG. **1** with predrilled bolts in each leg and slots in the table top **12**, the bolts **40** and **42** can be inserted into the slots and then can be screwed into the legs only a small distance in order to clamp the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the legs **22** and **24** together. Such a configuration can help reduce assembly time, as well as disassembly time, for the table apparatus **10**.

The first leg can be configured to selectively clamp the support brace **26** between the table top **12** and the first leg **22**, and the second leg **24** can be configured to selectively clamp the support brace **26** between the table top **12** and the second leg **24**. The legs have been previously described as used threaded bolts which can be selectively tightened to achieve clamping of the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first and second legs **22** and **24**. However, any suitable clamping means can be used to achieve the same result, including but not limited to spring bolts that can be pulled to insert the bolts into their respective slots, the bolts being released to clamp the corresponding components together.

A detailed view of the joining of the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first leg **22** is shown in FIG. **6**. In some embodiments, the first bolt **40** can include a first angular stop portion **56**. The first angular stop portion **56** can correspond to the first slot **16**. In some embodiments, the first angular stop portion **56** can be complementary to the first slot **16**. When the first bolt **40** is positioned in the first slot **16** and the first bolt head **50** is positioned in the first recess **46**, the first angular stop portion **56** can correspond to the first slot **16** such that the first slot **16** prevents the first bolt **40** from rotating about an axis **63** perpendicular to the plane **61** of the table top **12**.

As can be seen from FIG. **5** and FIG. **6**, the first angular stop portion **56** in some embodiments can have a generally square shape. A side **58** of the first angular stop portion **56** can have a lateral width **60** that generally corresponds to a lateral width **62** of the first slot **16**. A diagonal of the first angular stop portion **56** is larger than the width **62** of the first slot **16** such that the first angular stop portion **56** prevents the first bolt **40** from rotating about the axis perpendicular to the plane of the table top **12**. While the first angular stop portion **56** in FIG. **6** has a generally square shape, in other embodiments the first angular stop portion **56** can have any suitable shape or orientation such that the first angular stop portion **56** engages a side wall of the first slot **16**. Such shapes may include, but are not limited to, hexagonal, triangular, rectangular, oval, etc.

As such, when the first angular stop portion **56** is positioned in the first slot **16** and the bolt is torqued, for instance when the first leg **22** is rotated, the angular stop portion **56** engages the side wall of the first slot **16**, thereby preventing the first bolt **40** from rotating within the first slot **16** about the perpendicular axis **63**. As the first leg **22** is rotated in one direction, the first bolt **40** can be further screwed or tightened into the first leg **22**, effectively clamping the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first leg **22** together. When the first leg **22** is subsequently rotated in an opposite direction, the first angular stop portion **56** again can prevent the first bolt **40** from rotating about the perpendicular axis **63**, causing the first bolt **40** to be unscrewed or loosened from the first leg **22**, effectively unclamping the table top **12**, the support brace **26**, and the first leg **22**.

As can be seen in FIG. **3**, the second bolt **42** can similarly include a second angular stop portion **64** that corresponds to the second slot **18** such that the second slot **18** prevents the second bolt **42** from rotating about an axis perpendicular to the plane **61** of the table top **12**. The second angular stop

portion **64** can prevent the second bolt **42** from rotating as described within the second slot **18** when the second angular stop portion **64** is inserted into the second slot **18**.

Referring now to FIG. **1** and FIG. **2**, in some embodiments the table apparatus **10** can include a third slot **66** and a fourth slot **72** in the table top **12**. The first slot **16** can be located at a first corner **96** of the table top **12**. The second slot **18** can be located at a second corner **98** of the table top **12**. The third slot **66** can be located at a third corner **100** of the table top **12**. The fourth slot **72** can be located at a fourth corner **102** of the table top **12**. As such, the table top **12** can have a substantially rectangular shape. The apparatus can include a third leg **68** having a third bolt **70**, the third slot **66** configured to receive the third bolt **70** therethrough. The apparatus **10** can include a fourth leg **74** having a fourth bolt **76**, the fourth slot **72** configured to receive the fourth bolt **76**.

The table apparatus **10** can include a second support brace **78**, the second support brace **78** having a first end **80** with a first longitudinal slot **82** and a second end **84** with a second longitudinal slot **86**. The first longitudinal slot **82** of the second support brace **78** can have a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot **86** of the second support brace **78**. The first longitudinal slot **82** of the second support brace **78** can be configured to receive the third bolt **70** such that the third bolt **70** is positioned in the first longitudinal slot **82** of the second support brace **78**. The second longitudinal slot **86** of the second support brace **78** can be configured to receive the fourth bolt **76**, such that the fourth bolt **76** can be positioned in the second longitudinal slot **86** of the second support brace **78**.

As such, the table apparatus **10** shown in FIG. **2** can include two pairs of legs joined to the table top **12**, with a support brace joining each corresponding pair of legs. In some embodiments, the third and fourth legs **66** and **74** are positioned generally opposite the first and second legs **22** and **24**. In other embodiments, the table apparatus **10** can include only three legs, with one pair of legs being joined by a support brace **26**, the three legs forming a tripod to support the table top **12**. It will be apparent to one skilled in the art that additional pairs of legs and a corresponding support braces as previously described can be included in the table apparatus as needed, for instance to further support a table apparatus of increased size or weight.

In some embodiments, the table top **12** can include a plurality of slats **88** oriented substantially parallel to one another. Each of the plurality of slats **88** can be connected to each other by at least one strap **90** attached to one side of the plurality of slats **88**. As such, the table top **12** can be operable to roll up when detached from the first and second legs **22** and **24** and the support brace **26**. The table top **12** can then roll up into a compact storage configuration such that the table top **12** along with the legs and support braces can be stored in a relatively small amount of space. The ability to store the table apparatus **10** in a small amount of space can provide a portable table apparatus that can conveniently be transported to different locations, or a table apparatus that can be easily and efficiently stored without requiring a large amount of space. Such a portable table may be beneficial for a variety of different users, including but not limited to, campers, hikers, backpacker, boaters, tailgaters, concert goers, etc.

In some embodiments, the support brace **26** can be oriented substantially transverse to the plurality of slats **88** in the table top **12** when the first bolt **40** is extending through the first longitudinal slot **30** of the support brace **26** and the first slot **16** of the table top **12**, and the second bolt **42** is extending through the second longitudinal slot **34** in the support brace **26** and the second slot **18** in the table top **12**. As such, when the table top **12** is unrolled and the support brace **26** is in position, the support brace can maintain the plurality of slats **88** in an unrolled, flat, or rigid position. In some embodiments, the plurality of slats can include a first outer slat **92** and a second outer slat **94**. The first slot **16** can be located in the first outer slat **92** and the second slot **18** can be located in the second outer slat **94** such that the first outer slat **92** and the second outer slat **94** form opposing ends of the table top **12**. As such, when the support brace **26** is in position and receives the first and second legs **22** and **24**, the support brace **26** can traverse and thereby support all of the slats in the plurality of slats **88**.

Another aspect of the present invention is a method of constructing a table apparatus. As can be seen in FIG. **3**, the disassembled table apparatus can include a table top **12** having a plurality of slots **14**, a plurality of legs **20**, and a support brace **26** having a first end **28** with a first longitudinal slot **30** and a second end **32** with a second longitudinal slot **34**, the first longitudinal slot **30** having a longitudinal length longer than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot **34**.

One step of the method is shown in FIG. **7**. A first leg **22** of the plurality of legs **14** can be inserted into a first slot **16** of the plurality of slots **14**. Another step of the method can be shown in FIG. **8**. The first leg **22** can be inserted into the first longitudinal slot **30** of the support brace **46**. Another step of the method can be shown in FIG. **9**. A second leg **24** of the plurality of legs can be inserted into a second slot **18** of the plurality of slots **14** in the table top **12**. From FIG. **9** it can be seen that because the first longitudinal slot **30** in the support brace **26** has a greater longitudinal length, the support brace **26** can slide onto the first leg **22** along the first longitudinal slot **30** such that sufficient clearance can be formed between the support brace **26** and the second leg **24** being inserted into the second slot **18** of the table top **12**. Another step of the method includes inserting the second leg **24** into the second longitudinal slot **34** of the support brace **26** such that the support brace **26** extends across a plurality of slats **88** in the table top **12**. A constructed table can then be formed similar to the table shown in FIG. **1** and FIG. **2**. It will be readily apparent to one in the art that the second and third steps can be done in either order, or that in some embodiments, the second leg **24** is inserted into the second slot **18** before the support brace **26** is slid onto the first leg **22**.

In some embodiments of the method, the first leg **22** includes a first bolt **40**, and the second leg **24** includes a second bolt **24**. In such embodiments, the step of inserting the first leg **22** into the first slot can **16** further include inserting the first bolt **40** into the first slot **16**, and the step of inserting the first leg **22** into the first longitudinal slot **30** can further include the first longitudinal slot **30** receiving the first bolt **40**. Similarly, the step of inserting the second leg **24** into the second slot **18** can further include inserting the second bolt **42** into the second slot **18**, and the step of inserting the second leg **24** into the second longitudinal slot **34** can further include the second longitudinal slot **234** receiving the second bolt **40**. The method can also further include centering the support brace **26** between opposing ends of the table top **12**, tightening the first bolt **40** to clamp the first leg **22**, the table top **12**, and the support brace together, and tightening the second bolt **42** to clamp the second leg **24**, the table top **12**, and the support brace **26** together.

In some embodiments the table top **12** can further include a plurality of slats **88** oriented substantially parallel to one another, the plurality of slats **88** connected together by a strap **90** attached to one side of each of the plurality of slats **88**, the slats operable to roll up on one another. For such an embodiment, the method can further include the step of unrolling the table top **12**.

Thus, although there have been described particular embodiments of the present invention of a new and useful PORTABLE TABLE APPARATUS it is not intended that such references be construed as limitations upon the scope of this invention except as set forth in the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A table apparatus comprising:

a table top having a first slot and a second slot;

a first leg having a first bolt, wherein the first bolt is configured to extend through the first slot in the table top;

a second leg having a second bolt, wherein the second bolt is configured to extend through the second slot in the table top; and

a support brace having a first end with a first longitudinal slot and a second end with a second longitudinal slot, the first longitudinal slot having a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot, wherein

the first longitudinal slot is configured to receive the first bolt of the first leg therethrough, and the second longitudinal slot is configured to receive the second bolt of the second leg therethrough, wherein the table top includes a plurality of slats oriented substantially parallel to one another, and the plurality of slats are connected together by at least one strap attached to one side of the plurality of slats such that the table top is operable to roll up when detached from the first and second legs and the support brace.

2. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein the support brace is configured to be positioned between the table top and the first leg and the table top and the second leg.

3. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the support brace is oriented substantially transverse to the plurality of slats when the first bolt is extending through the first longitudinal slot of the support brace and the first slot of the table top and the second bolt is extending through the second longitudinal slot of the support brace and the second slot of the table top.

4. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the plurality of slats includes a first outer slat and a second outer slat;

the first slot in the table top is in the first outer slat;

the second slot in the table top is in the second outer slat; and

the first outer slat and the second outer slat form opposing ends of the table top.

5. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the table top further comprises a first recess coincident with the first slot;

the table top further comprises a second recess coincident with the second slot;

the first bolt has a first bolt head;

the first recess is configured to receive the first bolt head;

the second bolt has a second bolt head; and

the second recess is configured to receive the second bolt head.

6. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the first bolt includes a first angular stop portion corresponding to the first slot such that the first slot prevents the first bolt from rotating about an axis perpendicular to a plane of the table top when the first angular stop portion is inserted into the first slot; and

the second bolt includes a second angular stop portion corresponding to the second slot such that the second slot prevents the second bolt from rotating about the axis perpendicular to the plane of the table top when the second angular portion is inserted into the second slot.

7. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the first bolt is threaded into the first leg;

the second bolt is threaded into the second leg;

the first bolt is adjustable within the first leg to selectively clamp the first leg, the table top, and the support brace together; and

the second bolt is adjustable within the second leg to selectively clamp the second leg, the table top, and the support brace together.

8. The apparatus of claim **1**, further comprising:

a third slot in the table top, wherein the first slot is at a first corner of the table top, the second slot is a second corner of the table top, and the third slot is at a third corner of the table top; and

a third leg having a third bolt, wherein the third slot is configured to receive the third bolt therethrough.

9. The apparatus of claim **8**, further comprising:

a fourth slot in the table top, wherein the fourth slot in the table top is at a fourth corner of the table top and the table top is substantially rectangular; and

a fourth leg having a fourth bolt, wherein the fourth slot is configured to receive the fourth bolt therethrough.

10. The apparatus of claim **9**, further comprising a second support brace having a first end with a first longitudinal slot and a second end with a second longitudinal slot, the first longitudinal slot of the second support brace having a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot of the second support brace, the third bolt positioned in the first longitudinal slot of the second support brace, and the fourth bolt positioned in the second longitudinal slot of the second support brace.

11. The apparatus of claim **1**, wherein:

the first leg extends along a longitudinal axis thereof;

the second leg extends along a longitudinal axis thereof;

the first bolt extends longitudinally from the first leg; and

the second bolt extends longitudinally from the second leg.

12. A method of constructing a table comprising a tabletop with a plurality of slots, a plurality of legs, and a support brace having a first end with a first longitudinal slot and a second end with a second longitudinal slot, the first longitudinal slot having a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot, the method comprising the steps of:

inserting a first leg of the plurality of legs into a first slot of the plurality of slots;

inserting the first leg into the first longitudinal slot of the support brace;

inserting a second leg of the plurality of legs into a second slot of the plurality of slots; and

inserting the second leg into the second longitudinal slot of the support brace, such that the support brace extends across a plurality of slats of the table top, and

unrolling the table top, wherein:

the plurality of slats are oriented substantially parallel to one another; and

the plurality of slats are connected together by a strap attached to one side of each of the plurality of slats, the slats operable to roll up on one another.

13. The method of claim **12**, wherein:

the first leg further comprises a first bolt;

step (a) further comprises inserting the first bolt into the first slot; and

step (b) further comprises the first longitudinal slot receiving the first bolt.

14. The method of claim **13**, wherein:

the second leg further comprises a second bolt;

step (c) further comprises inserting the second bolt into the second slot; and

step (d) further comprises the second longitudinal slot receiving the second bolt.

15. The method of claim **14**, further comprising:

centering the support brace between opposing ends of the table top;

tightening the first bolt into the first leg to clamp the first leg, the support brace, and the table top together; and

tightening the second bolt into the second leg to clamp the second leg, the support brace, and the table top together.

16. A table apparatus comprising:

a table top having a plurality of slots, wherein the table top further comprises a plurality of slats oriented substantially parallel to one another, each slat of the plurality of slats connected to one another by a strap attached to one side of the slat;

a plurality of legs, each of the plurality of legs being inserted into a corresponding slot in the table top; and

a support brace having a first end including a first longitudinal slot, and a second end including a second longitudinal slot, wherein:

the first longitudinal slot has a longitudinal length greater than a longitudinal length of the second longitudinal slot;

a first leg of the plurality of legs is positioned in the first longitudinal slot; and

a second leg of the plurality of legs is positioned in the second longitudinal slot.

17. The apparatus of claim **16**, wherein the table top is operable to roll up when the plurality of legs are removed from their corresponding slots in the table top.

18. The apparatus of claim **16**, wherein the first leg is configured to selectively clamp the support brace between the table top and the first leg, and the second leg is configured to selectively clamp the support brace between the table top and the second leg.

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